

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3300
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
TELEPHONE INSTRUMENTS IN RURAL AREAS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of telephones remain out of order due to poor service and supply of inferior quality of telephone instruments;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide good quality of telephone instruments in the rural areas;
- (c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be provided; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve telephone facilities in the rural areas ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- a) No, Sir.
- b) Sir, good quality of telephone instruments are provided in the rural areas.
- c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- d) Following steps are taken to improve telephone facilities in rural areas:-
 - (i) Provision of reliable transmission media to all exchanges in a phased manner to improve working of STD/Group dialing.
 - (ii) Fault Repair Service (FRS) of more and more exchanges are computerized.
 - (iii) Maintenance free batteries and engine alternators are provided in a phased manner to cope up the long duration of power break downs.